

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

SEAN WILSON, individually and on behalf
of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

PTT, LLC, d/b/a HIGH 5 GAMES, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. C18-5275RSL

ORDER DENYING MOTION TO SEAL

This matter comes before the Court on “High 5 Games, LLC’s Motion for Leave to File Under Seal.” Dkt. # 151. Defendant seeks to seal excerpts of testimony from plaintiff’s deposition on the ground that the testimony was designated as confidential by plaintiff’s counsel. Defendant also seeks to seal excerpts of the testimony of its Rule 30(b)(6) witnesses on the ground that the testimony relates “to [defendant’s] internal business operations.” Dkt. # 151 at 2. Neither justification is sufficient.

“There is a strong presumption of public access to the court’s files,” and, absent a showing that the public’s right of access is outweighed by the interests of the public and/or the parties in shielding the material from public view, a seal is not appropriate. LCR 5(g). A party’s unilateral designation of a document as confidential under a protective order does not, in and of itself, justify a seal under LCR 5(g)(2). Plaintiff did not file a response to the motion as required by LCR 5(g)(3) or otherwise show the legitimate private or public interests that warrant a seal,

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1 the injury that would result from public disclosure, or that the public's right of access should
2 give way.

3 In support of the motion to seal the excerpts of testimony from its own witnesses,
4 defendant states only that the testimony is "confidential" and relates to "its internal business
5 operations." Dkt. # 151 at 2. Having reviewed the documents, the Court finds nothing to suggest
6 that the redacted information is confidential. Exhibit 3 discloses a hypothetical question asked by
7 plaintiff's counsel. Exhibit 4 discloses a sentence fragment that, standing in isolation, is
8 insubstantial and virtually meaningless.

9 The parties have not made the showing necessary to preclude public access to the
10 documents at issue. Defendant's request for a seal is therefore DENIED. The Clerk of Court is
11 directed to unseal Dkt. # 154-156.

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13 Dated this 15th day of December, 2020.

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15 Robert S. Lasnik
16 United States District Judge
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